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DEPOSITORY

Choosing a Health Career

Featuring WEE PALS® The Kid Power Gang

BY MORRIE TURNER

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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE • Public Health Service • Health Resources Administration

PROFILES IN HEALTH

CHARLES W. BUGGS,

MICROBIOLOGIST

CO-AUTHOR OF TWELVE RESEARCH STUDIES, INCLUDING "PENICILLIN AND SKIN GRAFTING." HE DID SPECIAL RESEARCH ON THE RESISTANCE OF BACTERIA TO ANTIBIOTICS. HE RECEIVED HIS B.A. DEGREE FROM MOREHOUSE COLLEGE AND HIS Ph.D. FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA. HE WAS THE RECIPIENT OF TWO ROSENWALD SCHOLARSHIPS AND WINNER OF THE SHELVIN FELLOWSHIP IN MEDICINE.

DR. AMANDA BAUTISTA FREEMAN

DR. FREEMAN IS A PEDIATRICIAN AT BOSTON'S SOUTH END COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER, WHERE ABOUT 65 PERCENT OF THE PATIENTS AND HALF THE STAFF ARE LATINO. A NATIVE OF NICARAGUA, WHERE SHE EARNED HER MEDICAL DEGREE, DR. FREEMAN SAYS HER UPBRINGING IS USEFUL, ALTHOUGH IT WASN'T AN "IN THING" FOR GIRLS TO GO TO COLLEGE. DR. FREEMAN FINDS IT EASY TO TREAT PUERTO RICAN PATIENTS BECAUSE OF THE SIMILARITIES BETWEEN PUERTO RICAN AND NICARAGUAN CULTURES.

DOCTOR M
WHERE HAVE YOU BEEN, MILTON ?
I WENT TO SEE MY DOCTOR TODAY

JUST AS ALL PATIENTS AND DOCTORS DO
I ALSO LEARNED THAT I CAN HELP OUR COMMUNITY
BY BECOMING AN ENDODONTIST, A CYTOTECHNOLOGIST, HISTOLOGIC TECHNICIAN, A PEDODONTIST, MEDICAL TRANSCRIPTIONIST, HEMATOLOGY TECHNOLOGIST..
OR AN ORTHODONTIST
I THOUGHT YOU WERE GOING TO BE A PRO BASKETBALL PLAYER

I AM, BUT YOU HAVE TO HAVE SOMETHING TO DO DURING THE OFF-SEASONS

YOU'LL HAVE ENOUGH TO DO LEARNING TO SPELL THOSE WORDS

HEALTH CAREERS

NURSING

NURSES NOT ONLY CARE FOR SICK PATIENTS, BUT PROMOTE THE PHYSICAL, MENTAL AND SOCIAL WELL-BEING OF PEOPLE.

THERE ARE MANY 3 OR 4 YEAR TRAINING PROGRAMS IN NURSING. GRADUATES OF ALL NURSING PROGRAMS CAN WORK IN MANY DIFFERENT AREAS; OPERATING ROOM, PEDIATRICS, OR PSYCHIATRIC NURSING ARE SOME EXAMPLES.

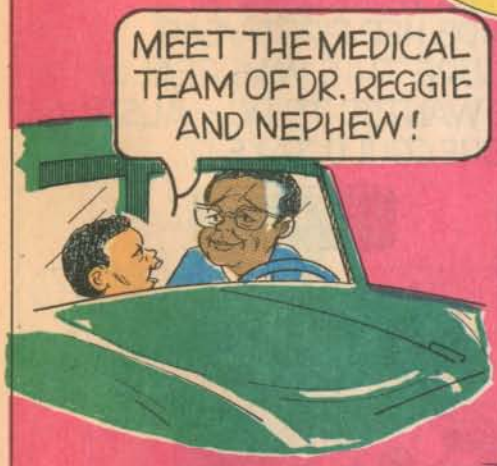
Meet Dr. Lester Benn

OBSTETRICIAN AND GYNECOLOGIST

HE HAS PATIENTS AT BOSTON CITY HOSPITAL AND UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL, AS WELL AS IN FIVE HEALTH CARE CLINICS THROUGHOUT THE CITY OF BOSTON.

DR. BENN'S UNCLE REGGIE WAS ALSO A DOCTOR WHO ALLOWED LESTER TO ACCOMPANY HIM ON HIS ROUNDS.

FROM THE AGE OF NINE, HE KNEW HE WANTED TO BE A DOCTOR.



FIRST CAME MEHARRY MEDICAL COLLEGE IN NASHVILLE, THEN DR. BENN'S RESIDENCY AT THE ROXBURY COMPREHENSIVE HEALTH CENTER EXEMPLIFIED THE NEED TO SERVE LOW-INCOME PATIENTS.

HE DIRECTS TWO COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTERS.

Meet Marcia Wells

PUBLIC HEALTH NURSE

BORN AND RAISED IN ROXBURY, MASS., IN A FAMILY THAT BELIEVED IN THE VALUE OF EDUCATION

SHE DID WELL IN ACADEMIC COURSES IN NIGHT SCHOOL, THEN WENT TO BOSTON UNIV. NURSING SCHOOL -- SHE WORKED AS A NURSING AIDE HER FIRST YEAR TO MAKE SURE THIS WAS REALLY WHAT SHE WANTED TO DO -- ALSO TO SEE IF SHE COULD TAKE IT

SHE WANTED TO BE A NURSE AS FAR BACK AS SHE CAN REMEMBER

SHE GOT HER FIRST SUPERVISORY JOB AT 23, AND HAS CONTINUED TO MOVE UP

"ALL PRO DOC."
WHY AREN'T YOU STUDYING YOUR HOME-WORK, RANDY?
DON'T WORRY ABOUT ME, SYBIL! NO NEED FOR ME TO STUDY
I'M GOING TO BE A PRO FOOT-BALL PLAYER AND GET RICH!
THUMP
WHAT MAKES YOU THINK YOU CAN MAKE IT AS A PROFESSIONAL PLAYER, RANDY?
I'M THE BEST ATHLETE IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD, CONNIE
YOU MIGHT BE THE BEST ATHLETE IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD, RANDY...

BUT THE ODDS AGAINST YOUR MAKING IT AS A PROFESSIONAL ARE 999 TO 1
ARE YOU GOING TO BET YOUR FUTURE ON 999 TO 1 ODDS AGAINST YOU ?
YEAH ? HOW DID YOU FIGURE THOSE ODDS, SYBIL ?
THERE ARE ROUGHLY ONLY 3,170 MAJOR LEAGUE POSITIONS AVAILABLE. THERE ARE 5 TO 6 MILLION BLACK MALES UNDER 20 YEARS OF AGE...
LATER
WHAT ARE YOU STUDYING, RANDY ?
I'M CHECKIN' OUT THE CAREER OPPORTUNITIES IN THE *HEALTH FIELD*, OLIVER

WHAT EVER BECAME OF YOUR PLANS TO BECOME A PRO FOOTBALL PLAYER, RANDY?
BUT I'M PREPARING MYSELF FOR A CAREER IN HEALTH, TOO!
I'M STILL GONNA BE A PRO PLAYER, OLIVER...
THAT WAY I'LL BE BOTH A PLAYER AND TEAM DOCTOR AND DOUBLE MY INCOME!

THERE ARE MANY OPPORTUNITIES IN THE HEALTH PROFESSIONS AND OCCUPATIONS. THESE OPPORTUNITIES ARE EXPANDING BECAUSE OF A RISING POPULATION. PREPARE YOURSELF NOW TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THESE OPPORTUNITIES.

PROFILES IN HEALTH

MARY E. P. MAHONEY

PROFESSIONAL NURSE

SHE BECAME THE FIRST PROFESSIONAL BLACK NURSE IN 1879, WHEN SHE WAS GRADUATED FROM THE MEDICAL SCHOOL OF THE NEW ENGLAND HOSPITAL FOR WOMEN AND CHILDREN. THIS WAS DURING THE RECONSTRUCTION ERA, WHEN RACIAL BARRIERS WERE AT THEIR HIGHEST AND EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR BLACKS AT THEIR LOWEST.

VANCE H. MARCHBANKS, JR.

SPACE PHYSICIAN

AN AIR FORCE DIVISION SURGEON DURING THE KOREAN WAR WHO WON ACCLAIM FOR DESIGNING A GAS MASK TESTING DEVICE AND A METHOD TO DETERMINE THE DEGREE OF "PILOT IN AIRCRAFT ACCIDENT" CASUALTIES. IN 1960 HE ADVISED THE N.A.S.A. "PROJECT MERCURY" STAFF ON PHYSICAL AND PSYCHOLOGICAL FACTORS IN PLACING A MAN ON THE MOON. HE LATER BECAME AN ADVISER WITH UNITED AIRCRAFT.

"TWAS A DARK AND STORMY NIGHT"
WHATCHA WRITING, WELLINGTON?
READ WHAT I WROTE SO FAR, RANDY
" IT WAS A DARK AND STORMY NIGHT...
"A BLACK CAT DASHED ACROSS THE ROAD. THE LEFT FRONT TIRE SUDDENLY BLEW OUT...
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"A WOLF HOWLED IN THE DISTANCE AS THE FOG BEGAN TO SETTLE IN...
"SLOWLY THE DOOR BEGAN TO CREAK OPEN."
YEAH, NO ONE WILL GO TO SLEEP READING ONE OF MY REPORTS WHEN I BECOME A MEDICAL WRITER
WOW! WHAT A START, WELLINGTON!

HEALTH CAREERS

DENTIST

THE DENTIST'S PRIMARY CONCERN IS TO TREAT PEOPLE'S ORAL HEALTH PROBLEMS AND HELP THEM PRESERVE TEETH. THE DENTIST LOCATES AND FILLS CAVITIES, EXTRACTS TEETH IF NECESSARY, STRAIGHTENS CROOKED TEETH, TREATS GUM AND MOUTH DISEASES, AND PROVIDES DENTURES. ADMISSION TO A DENTAL SCHOOL REQUIRES 2-4 YEARS OF COLLEGE WITH SPECIFIC SCIENCE COURSES.

"MY ACHIN' METRIC"

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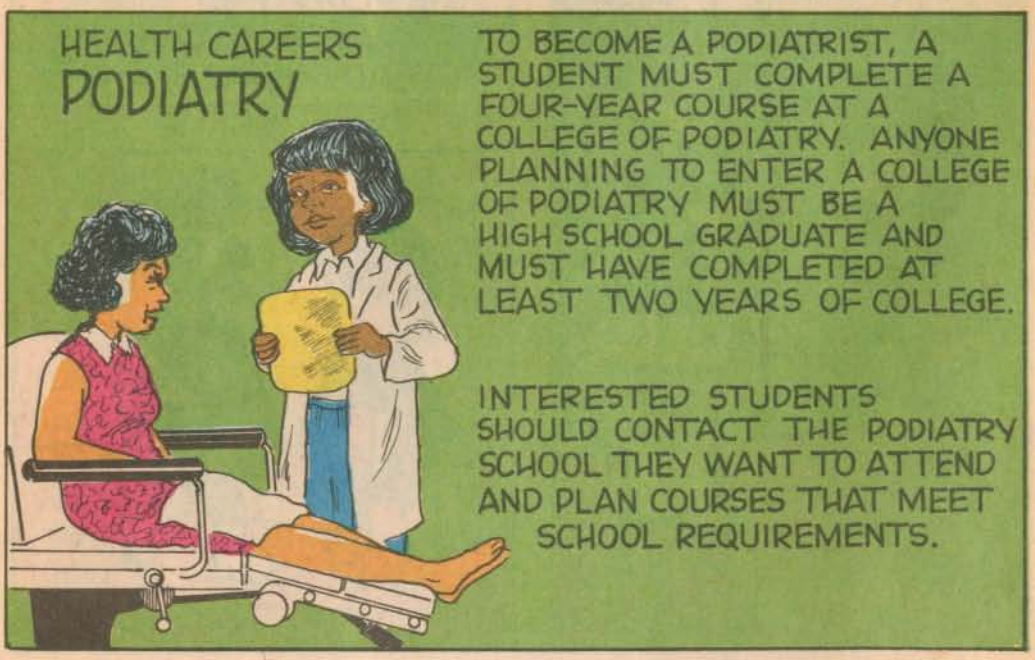
IF YOU'RE HAVING FEET PROBLEMS YOU SHOULD VISIT A PODIATRIST-- A PROFESSIONALLY TRAINED FOOT CARE PRACTITIONER WHOSE SERVICES SUPPLEMENT THE MEDICAL CARE PROVIDED BY PHYSICIANS

SO IF YOU HAVE FEET PROBLEMS, GO SEE A PODIATRIST, WELLINGTON

DR. MARY FIELDS
PODIATRIST

DR. FIELDS, SVBIL SAID I SHOULD COME TO YOU FOR HELP IN MY SCHOOL TEST, CONVERTING FEET INTO METRICS
DR.M.FIELDS


HEALTH CAREERS
PODIATRY
TO BECOME A PODIATRIST, A STUDENT MUST COMPLETE A FOUR-YEAR COURSE AT A COLLEGE OF PODIATRY. ANYONE PLANNING TO ENTER A COLLEGE OF PODIATRY MUST BE A HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATE AND MUST HAVE COMPLETED AT LEAST TWO YEARS OF COLLEGE.
INTERESTED STUDENTS SHOULD CONTACT THE PODIATRY SCHOOL THEY WANT TO ATTEND AND PLAN COURSES THAT MEET SCHOOL REQUIREMENTS.

THE SPECIALISTS
ART?..HEALTH? I DON'T GET IT, NIPPER!
TEAMWORK ART STUDIO
HEALTH IS OUR BUSINESS
WE NEVER GO OFF DUTY (WELL, HARDLY EVER)

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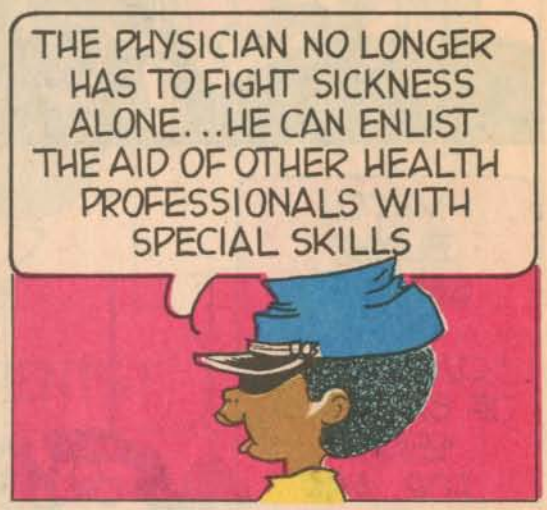
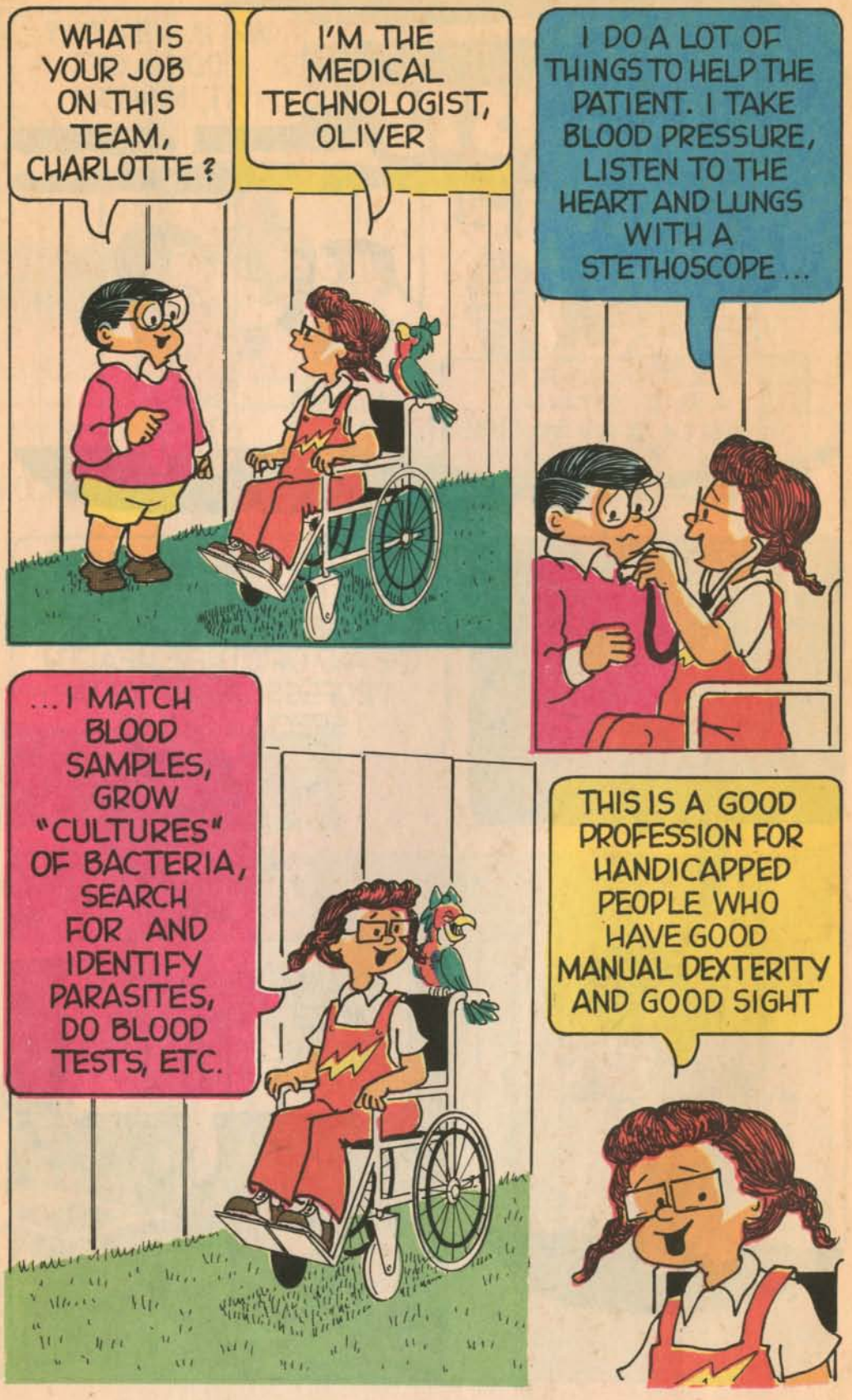
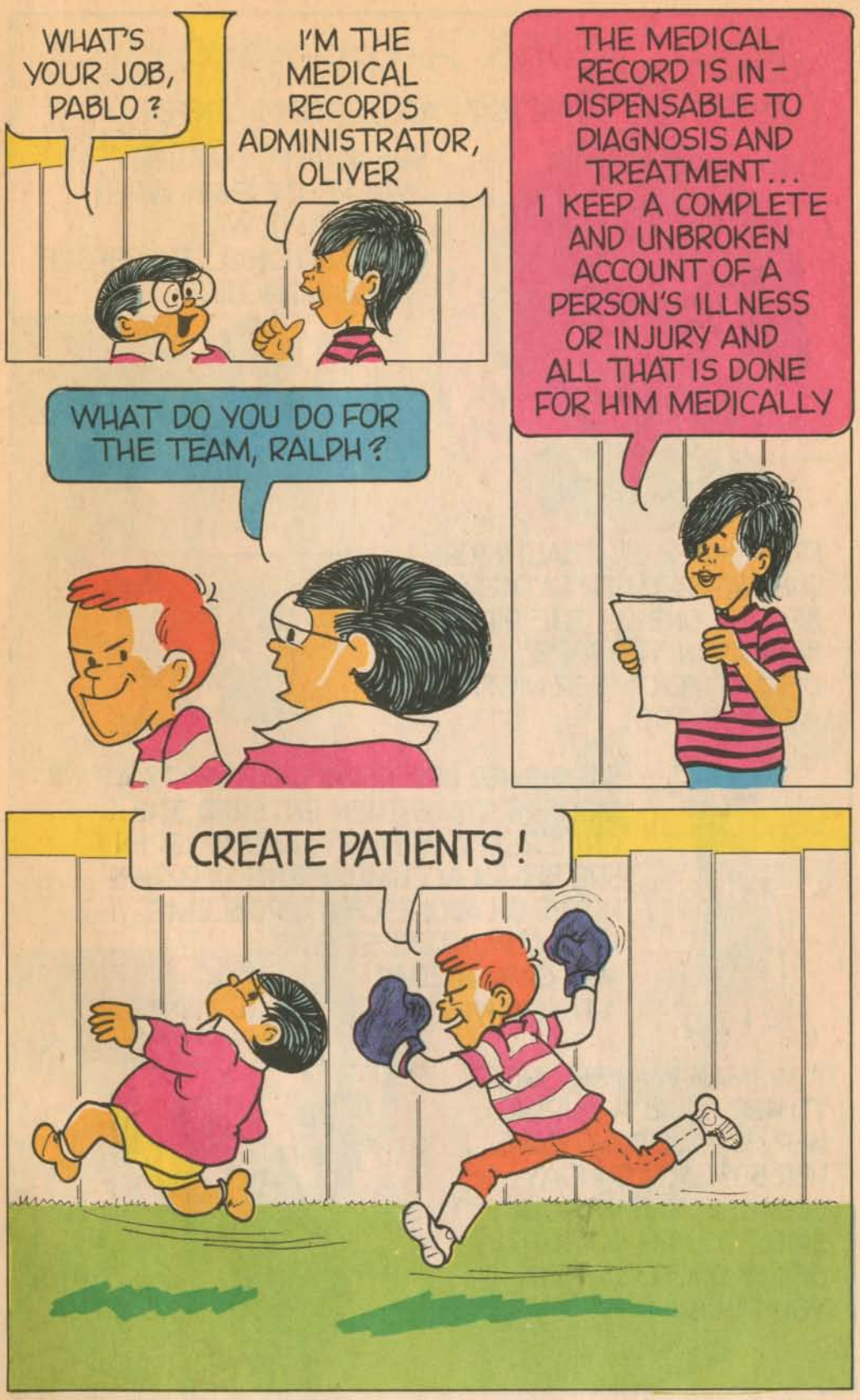
MEDICINE IS ONE OF THE MOST ANCIENT AND DEDICATED OF CALLINGS, OLIVER. MEN HAVE DEVOTED THEMSELVES TO THE *HEALING ARTS* SINCE HISTORY BEGAN
RAINBOW POWER


THE PHYSICIAN NO LONGER HAS TO FIGHT SICKNESS ALONE...HE CAN ENLIST THE AID OF OTHER HEALTH PROFESSIONALS WITH SPECIAL SKILLS


WHAT IS YOUR JOB ON THIS TEAM, CHARLOTTE?
I'M THE MEDICAL TECHNOLOGIST, OLIVER
I DO A LOT OF THINGS TO HELP THE PATIENT. I TAKE BLOOD PRESSURE, LISTEN TO THE HEART AND LUNGS WITH A STETHOSCOPE ...
... I MATCH BLOOD SAMPLES, GROW "CULTURES" OF BACTERIA, SEARCH FOR AND IDENTIFY PARASITES, DO BLOOD TESTS, ETC.
THIS IS A GOOD PROFESSION FOR HANDICAPPED PEOPLE WHO HAVE GOOD MANUAL DEXTERITY AND GOOD SIGHT


WHAT'S YOUR JOB, PABLO?
I'M THE MEDICAL RECORDS ADMINISTRATOR, OLIVER
THE MEDICAL RECORD IS INDISPENSABLE TO DIAGNOSIS AND TREATMENT... I KEEP A COMPLETE AND UNBROKEN ACCOUNT OF A PERSON'S ILLNESS OR INJURY AND ALL THAT IS DONE FOR HIM MEDICALLY
WHAT DO YOU DO FOR THE TEAM, RALPH?
I CREATE PATIENTS!

Meet Mona Harrison

ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR - ADOLESCENT CENTER

SHE MAPPED OUT HER OWN ROUTE EVEN WHEN THAT ROUTE WAS UNTRADITIONAL, THEREFORE MORE DIFFICULT.

FROM INNER CITY BALTIMORE, SHE WATCHED HER FATHER BECOME ONE OF THE FIRST BLACKS IN THE FIRE DEPARTMENT. HER MOTHER WORKED TOO.

SHE DID HER UNDERGRADUATE WORK AT MORGAN STATE, THEN ENTERED THE UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND, WHERE SHE BEGAN ACCUMULATING HER OWN NOTES ON ADOLESCENT PROBLEMS, HER MAIN INTEREST. SHE WAS GRADUATED AS A PHYSICIAN.

A WOMAN WHO BELONGED TO HER CHURCH DURING HER SCHOOL DAYS GAVE HER 50¢ EACH SUNDAY BECAUSE, THE WOMAN SAID, "YOU'RE GOING TO BE MY DOCTOR WHEN YOU FINISH."

LEONARDO DIZ-VINCI
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SCRIBBLE!
SCRIBBLE!
LET'S HAVE A LOOK AT YOUR DRAWING, DIZ
WELL, WHAT DO YOU AND ROCKY THINK OF MY PICTURE, CONNIE?
LET'S SEE NOW, ONE HEAD...
AND ONE BODY, CONNIE

HEALTH CAREERS

MEDICAL *ILLUSTRATOR*

CREATES DETAILED DRAWINGS, SCULPTURES AND OTHER GRAPHICS OF THE HUMAN BODY AND ITS PARTS FOR MEDICAL AND SCIENTIFIC PUBLICATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS.

ILLUSTRATORS COMPLETE A FOUR-FIVE YEAR BACHELOR'S DEGREE OR TWO-THREE YEAR MASTER'S DEGREE IN MEDICAL ILLUSTRATION.

TO BE ADMITTED TO THESE PROGRAMS, STUDENTS MUST BE PROFICIENT IN ART AND HAVE A GOOD SCIENCE BACKGROUND

ARTURO CORTEZ

NURSE PRACTITIONER

HE HAS TRAINED FOR A LONGER PERIOD THAN THE MORE COMMON REGISTERED OR LICENSED VOCATIONAL NURSE. HE CONDUCTS PHYSICAL EXAMS AND DOES "ABOUT 90 PERCENT" OF WHAT IS NORMALLY EXPECTED OF THE AVERAGE FAMILY DOCTOR. HE MAKES THE ROUNDS OF THE WARDS IN THE CORPUS CHRISTI, TEXAS, HOSPITAL, SPENDING A LOT OF TIME WITH PATIENTS WHO NEED HIS HELP.

PROFILES IN HEALTH

ERNEST E JUST

BIOLOGIST

WHILE PROFESSOR IN THE BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES AT HOWARD UNIVERSITY, HE RECEIVED MANY AWARDS AND GRANTS FOR RESEARCH. SCIENTISTS FROM ALL OVER EUROPE AND AMERICA HAVE STUDIED HIS WORK. HE HAS BEEN HONORED FOR HIS PIONEERING INVESTIGATIONS INTO THE MYSTERIES OF EGG FERTILIZATION AND THE STUDY OF THE CELL.

PROFILES IN HEALTH

CIRIACO Q. GONZALES
BIOLOGIST

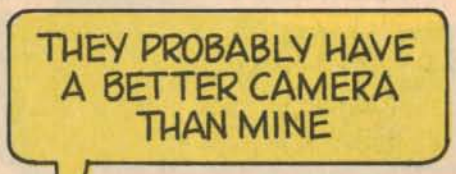
A RECIPIENT OF BOTH A 4-H SCHOLARSHIP AND A SPECIAL SCHOLARSHIP FOR MEXICAN-AMERICAN STUDENTS AT NEW MEXICO STATE UNIVERSITY, WHERE HE SWITCHED HIS MAJOR FROM AGRICULTURE TO BIOLOGY. HE EARNED A Ph.D. IN ENTOMOLOGY FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA. HE LATER JOINED THE NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH IN WASHINGTON, D.C., TO WORK WITH THE MINORITY BIOMEDICAL SUPPORT PROGRAM.

LOUIS T. WRIGHT
PHYSICIAN AND SURGEON

HE ORIGINATED A METHOD OF OPERATING ON FRACTURES ABOVE THE KNEE JOINT, A BRACE FOR FRACTURES OF THE SPINE, AND A VACCINATION AGAINST SMALLPOX, AND SUPERVISED THE FIRST TEST OF A MIRACLE DRUG, AUREOMYCIN, ON HUMANS. HE GRADUATED WITH HIGHEST HONORS FROM THE HARVARD MEDICAL SCHOOL IN 1915 AND IN 1919 WAS THE FIRST BLACK APPOINTED TO A NEW YORK CITY MUNICIPAL HOSPITAL.

"WEE PALS" IN

SMILE, AND SAY "GERM"



HEALTH CAREERS:

OPTOMETRIST

EXAMINES EYES TO DETECT VISION PROBLEMS, EYE DISEASE, ETC. WHEN NEEDED, THE OPTOMETRIST PRESCRIBES CORRECTIVE EYE EXERCISES, GLASSES OR OTHER OPTICAL AIDS. AT LEAST TWO YEARS OF COLLEGE ARE REQUIRED AND SPECIFIC SCIENCE COURSES ARE NEEDED FOR ADMISSION TO A SCHOOL OF OPTOMETRY.

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Meet Virgilio Da Lomba Jr.

RESPIRATORY THERAPIST

HE IS RESPONSIBLE FOR KNOWING AND USING ALL MACHINERY USED TO ALLEVIATE A PATIENT'S BREATHING PROBLEMS.

BORN IN CAPE VERDE, HE CAME TO THE U.S. IN 1951, SETTLING IN R.I. AND LATER MOVING TO BOSTON.

HE WAS A MECHANIC, THEN HE TRAINED FOR HIS JOB AS A RESPIRATORY THERAPIST.

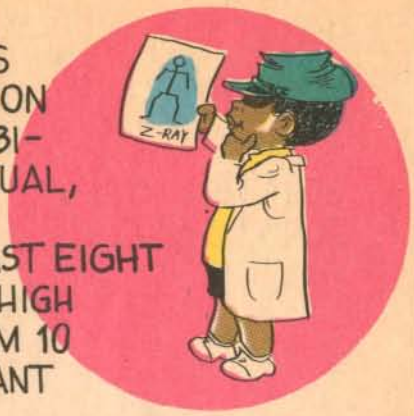
HEALTH CAREERS

RESPIRATORY THERAPIST

EDUCATION, TRAINING, AND EXPERIENCE RANGES FROM HIGH SCHOOL EDUCATION WITH COURSES IN BIOLOGY AND CHEMISTRY, ALONG WITH OVER A YEAR'S ON-THE-JOB TRAINING UNDER SUPERVISION, UP TO AND INCLUDING A B.S. DEGREE. ENROLLMENT IN A HOSPITAL OR A ONE OR TWO YEAR APPROVED CURRICULUM IS RECOMMENDED FOR THOSE WHO CANNOT GO ON TO COLLEGE FROM HIGH SCHOOL.

SOME HEALTH CAREERS:

PHYSICIAN



LEARNING TO BE A DOCTOR IS HARD WORK. IT IS A PROFESSION THAT REQUIRES AN EXACTING COMBINATION OF STRENGTHS: INTELLECTUAL, PHYSICAL, AND EMOTIONAL. MEDICAL TRAINING TAKES AT LEAST EIGHT YEARS AFTER GRADUATION FROM HIGH SCHOOL--AND MAY REQUIRE FROM 10 TO 15 YEARS FOR THOSE WHO WANT TO SPECIALIZE. THE FIRST STEP TOWARD A MEDICAL EDUCATION COMES IN HIGH SCHOOL, WITH COURSES THAT PREPARE A STUDENT FOR COLLEGE ENTRANCE.

MEDICAL TECHNOLOGIST

ANYONE PLANNING A CAREER IN MEDICAL TECHNOLOGY SHOULD HAVE AN APTITUDE IN SCIENCE, AND MUST BE A HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATE (OR ITS EQUIVALENT) FOLLOWED BY THREE YEARS IN COLLEGE PLUS ONE YEAR OF CLINICAL EDUCATION IN A SCHOOL OF MEDICAL TECHNOLOGY.

MEDICAL RECORDS ADMINISTRATOR

IMPORTANT QUALITIES IN A MEDICAL RECORDS ADMINISTRATOR ARE ORDERLINESS, ACCURACY AND PRECISION. A MINIMUM OF FOUR YEARS OF STUDY FOLLOWING HIGH SCHOOL IS REQUIRED TO BECOME A REGISTERED MEDICAL RECORDS ADMINISTRATOR.

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